

**ATTACHMENT TO FCC 601 FORM REQUESTING
SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY (S.T.A.)
BY THE CITY OF NEWTON (MA) FIRE DEPARTMENT**

BACKGROUND

The City of Newton, Massachusetts has shared the use of its radio facilities, pursuant to §90.179 of the Commission's Rules & Regulations, for several decades. This sharing arrangement has been with the following 32 Cities and Towns, plus the Massachusetts Port Authority (MassPort) the operator of Logan International Airport and the Port of Boston:

Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Braintree, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Dedham, Everett, Lexington, Lynn, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Milton, Nahant, Needham, Quincy, Reading, Revere, Saugus, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, Weston, Weymouth, Winchester, Winthrop and Woburn.

The Fire Department in each of these governmental entities is a member of the mutual aid association known as *MetroFire*. Additionally, the 33 municipal fire departments make up District #2 of the state's, six district, Regional Hazardous Materials Response Program.

The proliferation of hand-held portable radios in the fire service has forced *MetroFire* to redesign its mutual aid radio system. The current U.H.F. channel (483/486.3125 MHz) has only one Mobile Relay Station. This station does not provide enough signal strength for reliable hand-held portable radio operation throughout the geographic area served. The V.H.F. channel (154.22 MHz) performs slightly better, depending upon which fire department communications are made with.

REASONS FOR S.T.A. REQUEST & DURATION

MetroFire has purchased, and received delivery of, three new U.H.F. and three new V.H.F. Base Stations; along with several supplemental Voting Receivers and Comparators. Arrangements were made with WBZ-TV to locate a U.H.F. and a V.H.F. Base Station at their tower in Needham, Massachusetts. This equipment is shown as Location #1 on Schedules D & H of the FCC 601 Form.

The City of Newton requests Special Temporary Authority to begin operating on, or before, November 7, 2001. The purpose of this S.T.A. is to permit detailed field testing of the radio coverage from Location #1 and then to identify and test two additional locations for Base Stations within the *MetroFire* area; as permitted under §1.931(b)(2)(iii) of the Commission's Rules & Regulations.

The City of Newton further requests that, under §1.931(b)(2)(v) of the Commission's Rules & Regulations, the S.T.A. permit regular mutual aid fire communications to be conducted while a regular authorization is being obtained for the system and that the S.T.A. be granted for the full 180 day period defined in §1.931(b).

NOTIFICATION OF GRANT

Kindly FAX or E-MAIL contact person, Elliot Derdak, with approval or denial of this application. Information contained on Main Form #33 & 34.